(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Indian Railways do not have any serious or system deficiency in disaster management preparedness though few location specific deficiencies on areas of emergency preparedness, post incident response and other safety and security issues have been pointed out in the Performance Audit Report (No.PA 8 of 2008) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2007 on Disaster Management in Indian Railways. The disaster management efforts of the Indian Railways have been viewed in isolation in the report which is not appropriate as it is the responsibility of all the stake holders to share their expert resources to deal with all types of disasters including those affecting railways. The present and the latest concept of disaster management in India emphatically lay stress on participation by all the stake holders and integration of resources available with all the stake-holders has been the major thrust envisioned in the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There is no shortage of trained manpower, proper communication equipment and rescue and relief equipment on trains. Accident Relief Medical vans, Accident Relief Trains, High capacity breakdown cranes and other equipment have been provided at different places for expeditious restoration of traffic and immediate relief to passengers.

Institutional credit to agriculture sector

†*172. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a target to provide institutional credit worth Rs.2,80,000 crore to the agriculture sector was set for current financial year;

(b) if not, what was the amount;

(c) whether Government has obtained information concerning credit given to agriculture sector from June to the end of September this year; and

(d) if so, the total volume thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As per the information made available by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), the total credit flow to agriculture sector for the period 01 June, 2008 to 30th September, 2008 is Rs.81,363.62 crore.

Steps to increase production of oilseeds and pulses

†*173. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) whether it is a fact that effective steps are required to be taken for increasing the production of oilseeds and pulses to meet country's consumption requirement;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether, in the last three years, Government has introduced any scheme for giving economic incentive to the producers to increase the production of the said crops and also to expand cultivation area thereof; and

(d) if so, the details of the scheme and the results achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The Government of India is already implementing several Schemes to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses. As a result, a record production of oilseeds (288.26 lakh tonnes) and pulses (151.2 lakh tonnes) was achieved in 2007-08.

(c) and (d) The Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) since 1.4.2004 in 14 major oilseeds and pulses growing States. In addition National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) have been launched in 2007-08 and Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) (Revised) in 2008-09. The details of the Schemes launched in the last three years are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of the schemes launched in the last three years (2007-2009)

1. **NFSM-Pulses** – The Government has launched the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) comprising rice, wheat and pulses during 2007-08. One of the components is NFSM-Pulses. 171 districts of 14 major pulses growing States have been taken up under National Food Security Mission-Pulses for bringing about 4 million ha additional area under pulses through promotion of intercropping and by utilization of rice fallows. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for production of breeder seed, purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation and certified seeds, distribution of certified seeds, integrated nutrient management, lime/gypsum, micronutrients, integrated pest management, distribution of sprinkler sets, zero till seed drills, multiple crop planter, seed drills, rotavator, diesel pump sets, knapsack sprayers, extension and mass media campaign, award etc.

2. **RKVY** – **RKVY** has been launched during 2007-08. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for integrated development of oilseeds and pulses *i.e.* for Purchase of breeder seeds, production of breeder seeds, foundation and certified seeds, seed treatment, Farmers Field Schools, demonstrations and training of farmers etc.

3. **MMA** – **MMA** has been revised in 2008-09 to improve its efficacy in supplementing/complementing the efforts of States towards enhancement of agricultural production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses in the States which are not covered under ISOPOM. Under the scheme, incentives are given on production of breeder seed, purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation and certified seeds, distribution of certified seeds, integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), seed minikit, training etc.